

DOCKET NO. 800431



PATENT

2645 #8
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3/10/04

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Alasdair Campbell, *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/756,471

Filed: January 8, 2001

For: CUSTOMER COMMUNICATION SERVICE SYSTEM

Group No.: 2645

RECEIVED

Examiner: Chow, Ming

MAR 11 2004

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, VA 22313, on
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(Signature of the person signing the certificate)

Sir:

ELECTION OF CLAIMS

In response to the Official Action mailed on February 2, 2004, Applicant hereby elects, with traverse, Claims 1-16, comprising Group I.

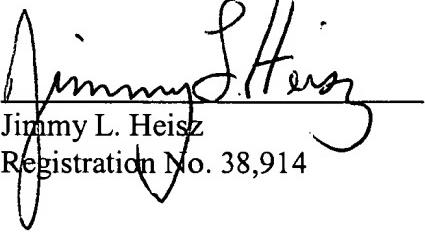
Applicant submits that the restriction requirement is improper. The Foreword to the MPEP states: "The Manual does not have the force of law. 35 USC 121, the law, states in relevant part: "If two or more independent AND distinct inventions are claimed in one application, the Commissioner may require the application to be restricted to one of the inventions." Emphasis added. The Examiner has only argued that the inventions are distinct. The Examiner has not also

argued, as is required by statute, that they are also independent, a much greater burden. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the restriction requirement be withdrawn.

Group II (Claims 17-35) and Group III (Claim 36) are canceled pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.142(b).

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Mar 5, 2009

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